

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

PCT/JP2003/009678



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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference S03P0898WO00	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/JP2003/009678	International filing date (day/month/year) 30 July 2003 (30.07.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 30 July 2002 (30.07.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 17/30		
Applicant SONY CORPORATION		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 18 February 2004 (18.02.2004)	Date of completion of this report 09 September 2004 (09.09.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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International Application No.

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:

- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

☒ The international application as originally filed/furnished

☐ the description:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-14	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1: Yuichiro Aoki et al., "Jouhou kensaku system DATA-710," *NEC Giho*, 31 October 1998, Vol. 41, No. 12, pages 33-39

Document 2: JP 2001-75959 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 23 March 2001

Document 3: JP 8-10452 B2 (Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp.), 31 January 1996

Document 4: Ken'ichi Hinatsu, "JICST ni okeru keyword jidou chuushutsu system no shiyou, *The Journal of Information Science and Technology Association*, 1 November 1992, Vol. 42, No. 11, pages 1051-1057

Document 5: JP 10-198667 A (Casio Computer Co., Ltd.), 31 July 1998

Document 6: JP 2000-115652 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 21 April 2000

The inventions described in claims 1 to 4, 7 to 10, and 13 and 14 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 3 cited in the international search report and newly cited document 6.

A means for extracting a keyword from content to be searched using a keyword dictionary and an excluded text string dictionary, disclosed in document 1, a means for

extracting a keyword from content to be searched using a combination of a technique wherein a keyword is extracted using a keyword dictionary in which personal names are recorded and another technique for extracting a keyword, disclosed in document 2, a technique for extracting a keyword from content to be searched using a character type-delimiting method and a technique for extracting a keyword from content to be searched using special characters, disclosed in document 3, and a technical concept wherein the title character string data and detailed character string data in content are the subject of a search, disclosed in document 6, belong to closely related technical fields, and thus, a person skilled in the art could easily conceive of applying the means and techniques for extracting keywords from content which are disclosed in documents 1 to 3 to the title character string data and detailed character string data in content, disclosed in document 6.

The inventions described in claims 5 and 11 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 4 cited in the international search report and newly cited document 6.

A person skilled in the art could easily conceive of applying the technique wherein when certain conditions are met a specified symbol is not designated as a delimiting character, disclosed in document 4, to the inventions disclosed in documents 1 to 3 and document 6.

The inventions described in claims 6 and 12 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 5 cited in the international search report and newly cited document 6.

A person skilled in the art could easily conceive of applying the means wherein a dictionary is downloaded via

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a network, disclosed in document 5, to the inventions disclosed in documents 1 to 4 and document 6.